

7 September 2006

Guidance Notes on Decommissioning of Offshore Installations and Pipelines updated to include CTE

The government has recognised the importance of ensuring that important records are preserved for future generations by including the 'Capturing the Energy' project in its decommissioning guidelines, under section 19: 'Provision for Historically Important Records'.



The Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform fully supports the scheme and recognises that decommissioning represents a key milestone which provides the opportunity to ensure that important data relating to the life of a field development and operations is preserved for the future. BERR will therefore, in discussing decommissioning proposals with operators, endeavour to identify those projects which are of particular importance in this respect, ensure that operators are aware of the 'Capturing the Energy' initiative and ask operators about their plans to preserve permanently relevant records and information.

Although CTE is not solely focussed on decommissioning, it is recognised that this may be a convenient time for operators to think about making provision for their records if they have not already done so. Along with company mergers and the selling of fields, decommissioning is one of the 'high-risk' phases when records are at their most vulnerable for destruction.